

118 CMR 1.00: SCOPE AND AUTHORITY

Section

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1.01: Scope and Purpose

(1) Scope.

- (a) 118 CMR 1.00 *et seq.* applies to all cases of abuse and retaliation reported to, investigated by or on the behalf of the Disabled Persons Protection Commission and remediated as a result of such investigations pursuant to M.G.L. c. 19C and 118 CMR.
- (b) 118 CMR does not provide for an adjudicatory hearing within the meaning of M.G.L. c. 30A, § 1(1). 118 CMR 1.00 *et seq.* is not intended to constitute an administrative remedy under the doctrine of exhaustion of administrative remedies or otherwise.

(2) Purpose. The purpose of 118 CMR is to establish the procedures and standards the Commission utilizes in order to effectuate the purposes of the Commission including but not limited to the investigation and remediation of abuse of persons with disabilities who reside in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts or of non-resident persons with disabilities who are abused while in the Commonwealth of Massachusetts and the investigation and remediation of instances of retaliation against a person for having reported such abuse or cooperated in the investigation of abuse. In pursuing its statutory purposes, the Commission shall endeavor to respect the privacy and self-determination rights and dignity of persons with disabilities.

1.02: Authority

118 CMR 1.00 *et seq.* is promulgated pursuant to the authority created under M.G.L. c. 19C, § 3.

1.03: Commentaries

Commentaries may be used throughout 118 CMR 1.00 to clarify certain issues, concepts, or problems, as well as to give specific examples of typical situations that may arise under 118 CMR. These commentaries are intended to be illustrative only, and do not apply to fact situations different from those specifically described herein.

1.04: Construction

- (1) In interpreting 118 CMR.1.00 *et seq.*, words and phrases shall be construed according to common and approved usage; provided however, that technical words and phrases and such others as may have acquired a special and appropriate meaning in law shall be construed and understood according to such meaning.
- (2) The generally-accepted rules of construction shall be observed in 118 CMR 1.00 *et seq.* unless their observance requires a construction inconsistent with the manifest intent of M.G.L. 19C or is repugnant to its context.
- (3) The time frames for performing acts required by M.G.L. c.19C and 118 CMR shall be determined as follows: a time requirement which refers to "business days" shall refer to Mondays through Fridays, excluding legal holidays; a time requirement which refers to "calendar days," shall refer to all the days of the week within the time frame, provided that if the final day of the time frame regarding either "business days" or "calendar days" is a Saturday or Sunday or a legal holiday, the time requirement shall be extended to the next regular business day. References to "days" shall refer to calendar days unless otherwise specifically indicated.

1.05: Severability

If any regulation, section, sub-section, sentence, clause, phrase, word, or portion of 118 CMR 1.00 is found to be invalid by a court of competent jurisdiction for any reason, said portion shall be deemed a separate, distinct, and independent provision, and the validity of the remainder of 118 CMR shall be unaffected.

REGULATORY AUTHORITY

118 CMR 1.00: M.G.L. c. 19C, §§ 2, 3(b), 4(b) and § 11.